

Message 9-22-18 Hazinu-Give Ear Deuteronomy 32:1-52 2 Samuel 22:1-51 Luke 1:67-80

Introduction

Today's Torah portion stands in opposition to the creeping trivialization of our faith. The Torah says of faith that "it is no emptiness for you; it is your life." This is the message Moses tried to instill faith in God in Israel and through His words in us, who are reading them, as well.

Deuteronomy 32:39-47

39 "See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god beside me; I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. ⁴⁰ For I lift up my hand to heaven and swear, As I live forever, ⁴¹ if I sharpen my flashing sword and my hand takes hold on judgment, I will take vengeance on my adversaries and will repay those who hate me. ⁴² I will make my arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh-- with the blood of the slain and the captives, from the long-haired heads of the enemy.' ⁴³ "Rejoice with him, O heavens; bow down to him, all gods, for he avenges the blood of his children and takes vengeance on his adversaries. He repays those who hate him and cleanses his people's land." ⁴⁴ Moses came and recited all the words of this song in the hearing of the people, he and Joshua the son of Nun. ⁴⁵ And when Moses had finished speaking all these words to all Israel, ⁴⁶ he said to them, "Take to heart all the words by which I am warning you today, that you may command them to your children, that they may be careful to do all the words of this Torah. ⁴⁷ For it is no empty word for you, but your very life, and by this word you shall live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess." (ESV)

As Moses is coming to an end of his message to the people, he has become a vessel for the Holy One to speak out the prophetic word, which for the Almighty, is not prophecy. The Lord's word is truth, and to Him it is finished as the Holy One is without beginning and without end. It is not prophecy to Him, and as He speaks through His servant Moses, it is as if Moses and the Holy One were having a conversation where the Lord spoke face to face with Moses as a friend to a friend without hiding the meaning of what He shared. He was now coming before the Children of Israel and sharing with them the word of the Lord with Joshua at his side because Joshua is about to take over as the next leader of Israel. The sandals Joshua had to fill were enormous, but Joshua had been as Moses' side for forty years, and I would have to assume that Moses shared things with him that he did not share with anyone else. Joshua had to have seen with his own eyes the

miracles the Almighty had done as he left Egypt along with the others, with only Caleb and himself being left from that generation who could enter the Promised Land.

Moses gave his song to Israel, and as he brought it to a close, he gave Israel a warning. Moses already knew that Israel would fall away from the Lord after Moses and the other early leaders were gone, but Moses told them to hold fast to the covenant of Torah because it was their very lives that would depend on them being faithful to the covenant. We know Israel failed to hold to Torah and teach it to their children, and in the end, they were exiled from the land many times. This was simply a mirror of what would happen to all of mankind time and time again. Even in our time, we see man falling away from the teachings of the Almighty. I am sorry to say that in Judaism and Christianity I have seen a falling away that has not been seen for a very long time. Man no longer cares about what God wants, only what they want. Man was instructed by the Holy One to take care of those less fortunate than themselves like the widow and the orphan. They are to leave the corner of their field unharvested, if they are farmers, so there will be food for those in need. Many in the church still subscribe to Replacement Theology, throwing Israel and the Jewish people away like so much trash. The western world has joined with the Arab nations to rise up against the state of Israel when such a small country is such a thorn in the side of everyone else. One must ask the question, Why? The why is because you cannot say Israel is no more and unimportant simply because you say it.

Ezekiel 44:5 The LORD said to me, "Son of man, mark well, see with your eyes and hear with your ears all that I say to you concerning all the statutes of the house of the LORD and concerning all its Torah; and mark well the entrance of the house, with all exits of the sanctuary. (NAU)

God has to say it, and He has not. He embraces His children and welcomes them home wanting to see them return to the covenant instead of man's laws. The Torah is life for all who grab hold of it because it shows you what Yehovah desires from you, and first and foremost it is to embrace His Son Yeshua. Yeshua is His grace and mercy towards us. The Torah is the instruction manual as to how to stay on the right road and path that will bring you home one day soon.

2 Samuel 22:1-4

1 And David spoke to the LORD the words of this song on the day when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. ² He said, "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, ³ my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge, my savior; you save me from violence. ⁴ I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies. (ESV)

As Moses sang his song about Yehovah's deliverance, so also did David sing the same song. He praised the Holy One as his Rock, Fortress, and Deliverer. He takes refuge in Him, He is His shield, the horn of his salvation, and his Savior. This is a man who did things that violated the Torah and paid a heavy price for doing it. Instead of dying at a young age, he lived until he was an old man, but he watched his family fall apart as one

son tried to kill him for the throne and another killed his brother for raping his sister. He was loyal to King Saul even when Saul tried to hunt him down to kill him. He had Saul under his power and could have killed him, but he did not because he knew Saul was the anointed of the Almighty and would deal with him in His own time. David knew he was next in line to the throne because he had been anointed by Samuel to take Saul's place since he had violated Yehovah's orders. Saul disobeyed Samuel and Torah, which meant he disobeyed Yehovah. Life was not that much easier for David, but he tried to follow Torah and do what was expected of him.

Psalm 91:2 I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." (ESV)

David was the forerunner of the Messiah. Yeshua would come from the line of David from the tribe of Judah. Therefore, the Jewish people are so important because it will be to Jerusalem that Yeshua will return to take up the throne of David, and yet David sat upon His throne because Messiah comes not only after David, but He was before him. He was before anything else except His Father. If Jerusalem was still in the hands of the Moslems and if the Dome of the Rock remains on the Temple Mount, do you think Messiah will come to that unclean place occupied by a people who hate His people, Judah? The Moslems say they belief in Jesus, but that belief lies in the teaching that Mohammed is the greater prophet than Jesus, and Jesus will be either the false prophet or anti-Christ who leads the people down a rose covered path away from Yeshua and straight to Satan!

2 Corinthians 11:2 For I am jealous for you with God's kind of jealousy; since I promised to present you as a pure virgin in marriage to your one husband, the Messiah; ³ and I fear that somehow your minds may be seduced away from simple and pure devotion to the Messiah, just as Havah was deceived by the serpent and his craftiness. ⁴ For if someone comes and tells you about some other Yeshua than the one we told you about, or if you receive a spirit different from the one you received or accept some so-called "good news" different from the Good News you already accepted, you bear with him well enough! (11:2 CJB)

My Jewish brethren reject Yeshua as Messiah while waiting for the coming of a Messiah they do not really know. The church waits for the second coming of a Messiah that may not come the way they expect. When we try to box God in, we are making the wrong move. I understand it is because we try to understand Yehovah on our terms not His. Allow the *Ruach HaKodesh* to show you the way. The Spirit of God is there to empower us, help us to walk in the covenant of Torah, and to come to Messiah Yeshua willingly where the source of redemption lies waiting for us to ask for forgiveness from our sins. Will you do that today? The time is growing short.

Luke 1:67-80

67 And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, ⁶⁸ "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people ⁶⁹ and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, ⁷⁰ as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, ⁷¹ that we should be saved from our enemies

and from the hand of all who hate us; ⁷² to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, ⁷³ the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us ⁷⁴ that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. ⁷⁶ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, ⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, ⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high ⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." ⁸⁰ And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel. (ESV)

Can we prophesize in the power of Zechariah, the father of John the Immerser? The Holy Spirit came upon him and shared with him a message like that of King David. It has been said, and I believe it, that prophecy may have more than one fulfillment. There may be other times some prophesies come to pass several times as the Lord needs it. In this passage, we see this happening regarding the calling of John the Immerser. He will be a prophet of the Most-High to give knowledge of salvation to His people and to prepare the way for the one who will follow him – Yeshua. John was an Elijah, filled with the Spirit of the Lord to bring the people back to Yehovah and get them ready for the coming of the one who would follow him and pick up his mantle as Elisha did with Elijah. Elisha saw Elijah being taken to heaven in a chariot of fire and was given a double portion of Elijah's spirit. Yeshua would come and have the entire measure of His Father's Spirit because He was and is one with the Father in the fullness of the Spirit.

Torah Man says: "If you have God's promise, isn't that enough?

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

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